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Serial no. 10/045,798
Filed 1/9/2002
Attorney docket no. BEA919990003US1

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REMARKS

Claim objections

Claims 3, 4, and 10-14 have been objected to on the basis of various informalities noted by the Examiner. Applicant has amended claims 3, 4, and 10 to correct the informalities, and requests that the claim objections be withdrawn. Applicant notes that the substantive subject matter covered by the claims should not be interpreted as being changed by virtue of these amendments.

Claim rejections under 35 USC 112

Claims 1-9 have been rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. In particular, various limitations in claims 1 and 5 were recited as being indefinite. Applicant has amended claims 1 and 5 to correct the indefiniteness of these claims, and requests that the claim rejections be withdrawn. Applicant notes that the substantive subject matter covered by the claims should not be interpreted as being changed by virtue of these amendments.

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Conclusion

Applicants have made a diligent effort to place the pending claims in condition for allowance, and request that they so be allowed. However, should there remain unresolved issues that require adverse action, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone Applicants' Attorney so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible. For these reasons, this application is now considered to be in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,



May 7, 2004
Date

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